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OCCURRENCE OF *PHYSCIA CLEMENTEI* (SM.) LYNGE IN BUDAPEST

A *Physcia clementei* zuzmófaj megjelenése Budapesten

Mónika Sinigla[1]* & László Lőkös[2]

*[1]Hungarian National Museum Public Collection Centre, Bakony Natural History Museum, H–8420 Zirc, Rákóczi tér 3–5, Hungary; [2]H–1025 Budapest, Cseppkő u. 23/B, Hungary; *E-mail: sinigla.monika@nhmus.hu*

Thallus small foliose, 1–3 cm diam., rosette-shaped, lobes 0.5–1 mm wide, crenulate, concave to flat, closely appressed to substrate, upper surface whitish bluish or whitish grey, covered by densely coalescent sorediose schizidia-like pustules in thallus centre, upper cortex paraplectenchymatous. Lower surface and rhizines white to pale brown, rhizines 0.5–1 mm, lower cortex prosoplecten-chymatous. Apothecia 0.8–1.2 mm diam., disc brownish black, pruinose, thalline exciple thick and crenulate. *Physcia clementei* is predominantly a corticolous species, reported from several hosts with more or less smooth, nutrient-rich bark (*Acer*, *Fraxinus*, *Olea* etc.). It is regarded as a nitrophilous, Atlanto-Mediterranean, Mediterranean to mild-temperate, mainly western species. So far only one occurrence has been reported from Hungary by László Gallé (as *Physcia astroidea*) along the inundation area of the river Tisza from bark of deciduous trees. In November 2024, we detected thalli of *Physcia clementei* fully covering the bark of three *Liquidambar styraciflua* trees in a small park in Babér street in Budapest. It was accompanied by *Candelaria concolor*, *Hyperphyscia adglutinata*, and *Xanthoria parietina. Liquidambar styraciflua* is not native in Hungary, it is an urban ornamental tree. The *Liquidambar* trees in the park came from the Bruns Pflanzen Nursery (Bad Zwischenahn, Germany) in March 2024 (according to XIII. Kerületi Közszolgáltató Zrt., Budapest). The distance between this tree nursery and Budapest is ca 1,000 km. The rather old saplings (ca 8–10 m high, 9–15 cm in DBH) packed by rootballs were transported together with their lichen cover dispersing the lichen species easily for a very long distance. So, the lichen species is an introduced element in the lichen flora of Budapest (Hungary) now. It is an interesting task to follow how *Physcia clementei* will survive, establish or spread around and from this Budapest locality in the future.